GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3759
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2006
THEFT OF TAPES
Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Mane Smt. Nivedita

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of theft of number of tapes from All India Radio Museum recently particularly the tapes containing the speeches of the then Chief Minister, Sheikh Abdullah of Jammu and Kashmir State;

(b) if so, the details of each tape missing from the museum;

(c) whether any responsibility has been fixed in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures taken by the Government to locate the missing tapes and other remedial measures to check the recurrence of such incidents in future?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING & PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. DASMUNSI)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Prasar Bharati have informed that one tape containing recorded speech of former Chief Minister of J&K, late Shri Sheikh Abdullah was found missing on 18.11.2004 from Studio Complex of Central Archives, AIR, New Delhi.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. Prasar Bharati have informed that disciplinary proceedings under Rule 14 of the Central Civil Services (Classification Control & Appeal) Rules, 1965 (major Penalty proceedings) have been initiated against two concerned officials.

(e): Prasar Bharati have informed that a Group of Officers, was formed by Director, Transcription & Programme Exchange Service (DTPES) of DG:AIR for locating the missing tape. The Group did the physical verification of the tapes but it was not found. A complaint was also lodged with Station House Officer, Parliament Street Police Station, New Delhi on 25.09.2006, with the request to take immediate necessary action to lodge/file FIR and follow up to trace the missing tape.

Adequate arrangements have been made in Central Archives, Digital Archives & PEU Library of DTPES to check the recurrence of such incidents in future. From time to time, instructions are issued on the use of Archives Library and Digital Library. The tapes issued are required to be returned the same day by concerned official/officials.